VZCZCXYZ0014 PP RUEHWEB

DE RUEHCV #0588 0651601 ZNR UUUUU ZZH P 061601Z MAR 06 FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3444 INFO RUEHBO/AMEMBASSY BOGOTA PRIORITY 6097 RUEHBR/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA PRIORITY 5241 RUEHBU/AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES PRIORITY 1050 RUEHEG/AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY 0012 RUEHCP/AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN PRIORITY 0083 RUEHDM/AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS PRIORITY 0036 RUEHGE/AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN PRIORITY 0147 RUEHLP/AMEMBASSY LA PAZ MAR 1732 RUEHPE/AMEMBASSY LIMA PRIORITY 9938 RUEHMU/AMEMBASSY MANAGUA PRIORITY 1025 RUEHZP/AMEMBASSY PANAMA PRIORITY 1048 RUEHQT/AMEMBASSY QUITO PRIORITY 1804 RUEHSN/AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR PRIORITY 0812 RUEHSG/AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO PRIORITY 3303 RUEHTV/AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY 0042 RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY 0125 RUEHGL/AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL PRIORITY 0333 RUEHJM/AMCONSUL JERUSALEM PRIORITY 0004 RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC PRIORITY RUMIAAA/HQ USSOUTHCOM MIAMI FL PRIORITY RUEHRFC/USOFFICE RFC WASHDC PRIORITY

UNCLAS CARACAS 000588

SIPDIS

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NEA, IPA

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: PREL

SUBJECT: MESSAGE ON HOST COUNTRY MEETINGS WITH HAMAS DELIVERED

REF: A) STATE 27174 B) CARACAS 00492 C) CARACAS 00503

(SBU) After several unsuccessful attempts to deliver ref A in person, Poloff delivered reftel demarche regarding host country guidance for meetings with Hamas representatives to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on March 2 via fax. (Note: The Venezuelan Ministry of Foreign Affairs has increasingly refused to engage in face to face contact with Embassy employees, and with very few exceptions, is extremely reluctant to agree to meetings.) In a follow-up conversation with Third Secretary for North America Robinson Zapata, Zapata said he had no substantive response but agreed to pass talking points to Vice Minister for North America Maria Pilar Hernandez for further consideration.
WHITAKER